

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 23, 2007

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2007–08 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 26

Introduced by Assembly Member Sharon Runner

February 22, 2007

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 26—Relative to Historic U.S. Highway Route 6.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 26, as amended, Sharon Runner. Historic U.S. Highway Route 6.

The measure would request the Department of Transportation, upon application by an interested local agency or private entity, to identify any section of former U.S. Highway Route 6 that is still a publicly maintained highway and that is of interest to the applicant, and to designate that section as Historic U.S. Highway Route 6. This measure would also request the department to determine the costs of appropriate highway markers or signs showing that special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect appropriate highway markers or signs on the portions of former U.S. Highway Route 6 that are part of the state highway system.

Fiscal committee: yes.

- 1 WHEREAS, U.S. Highway Route 6 began in the 1920s as a
- 2 short route between Provincetown, Massachusetts, and Brewster,
- 3 New York; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Thereafter, U.S. Highway Route 6 was extended
- 5 westward and, in 1926, ended in Denver, Colorado; and

1 WHEREAS, Around 1937, U.S. Highway Route 6 became a
2 transcontinental highway when it was extended to Long Beach,
3 California. The route thereby stretched a distance of ~~3,652~~ 3,517
4 miles, making it the longest highway in the country; and

5 WHEREAS, U.S. Highway Route 6 has been called the
6 Roosevelt Highway and is now officially named the Grand Army
7 of the Republic Highway; and

8 WHEREAS, In 1964, California renumbered its state highway
9 system and truncated U.S. Highway Route 6 at Bishop, California;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, U.S. Highway Route 6 now stretches ~~3,227~~ 3,249
12 miles and is recognized as the second longest highway in the
13 country; and

14 WHEREAS, U.S. Highway Route 6, in addition to its importance
15 in transportation, has outstanding natural, cultural, historic, and
16 scenic qualities; and

17 WHEREAS, Over the years, U.S. Highway Route 6 has
18 conveyed commerce and pleasure travelers whose needs were met
19 by nearby cities and counties; and

20 WHEREAS, Though largely supplanted by other state highway
21 routes, segments of the original U.S. Highway Route 6 remain,
22 although many are no longer identified as such; and

23 WHEREAS, Former U.S. Highway Route 6 served as the main
24 street of many California cities and towns along its length and,
25 though no longer designated as former U.S. Highway Route 6,
26 these segments represent both state and local historic significance;
27 and

28 WHEREAS, Without formal designation, the history and
29 contribution of these segments of U.S. Highway Route 6 to the
30 development of the state would remain less known; and

31 WHEREAS, Recognition of these segments will foster the
32 economic health and cultural preservation of small communities
33 and towns located along the highway; and

34 WHEREAS, It is fitting that a means to designate these historic
35 sections of former U.S. Highway Route 6 be established; now,
36 therefore, be it

37 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
38 *thereof concurring,* That the Legislature hereby recognizes the
39 remaining segments of former U.S. Highway Route 6 for their

1 historical significance and importance in the development of
2 California; and be it further

3 *Resolved*, That the Department of Transportation is requested,
4 upon application by an interested local agency or private entity,
5 to identify any section of former U.S. Highway Route 6 that is still
6 a publicly maintained highway and that is of interest to the
7 applicant, and to designate that section of highway as Historic U.S.
8 Highway Route 6; and be it further

9 *Resolved*, That the department is requested to determine the cost
10 of appropriate highway markers or signs consistent with signing
11 requirements for the state highway system showing the special
12 Historic U.S. Highway Route 6 designation; and, upon receiving
13 donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those
14 highway markers or signs on the portions of former U.S. Highway
15 Route 6 that are part of the state highway system; and be it further

16 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
17 of this resolution to the Director of Transportation and to the author
18 for appropriate distribution.